

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

January 11, 2005

The County of Los Angeles has seen a drastic reduction in the amount of abandoned babies since our efforts to inform the public about California's Safe Haven Law which began in 2002. This pioneering law, allows a mother to safely surrender her baby within three days of birth at any designated safe surrender location, no questions asked.

On my motion, the Board of Supervisors created the Safe Haven Task Force with the direction to pull community leaders and children's advocates together to establish recommendations to the Board on how best to implement the Law.

The Inter-agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) has been a leader in the County's efforts to end the senseless act of abandoning babies in LA County. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors thanks ICAN for its outstanding service to the residents of the County by helping to further our goal of zero babies abandoned in LA County.

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MOTION

BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
MOLINA	_____

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors accept the recommendations of ICAN's report on Safely Surrendered and Abandoned Infants in Los Angeles County, and given this newly released information, request the Chief Administrative Office and affected departments to assist and support the reconvened Safe Haven Task Force with their staff and other resources needed by the Task Force.

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JM:e